Numb. 48.

The EXAMINER.

From Thursday *June* 21, to Thursday *June* 28, 1711.

Conſolar ſocios ut Longi tœdia Belli
Mente ferant placida.

I Suppoſe ſome Wit, and much Leiſure, have made it a Faſhion among ingenious Perſons, to ſend Letters, by way of aſſiſtance, to us Weekly Writers: 'Tis eaſy to imagine, that I have had my ſhare of ſuch Contributions, for which, tho' I am very thankful, yet I muſt confeſs, with ſome Vanity, That my Mind is rather burthened than relieved by thoſe Intelligences. If I take notice of ſome and not of others, I proportionably diſoblige: However, as they fall in my way, I promiſe to do what lies in my Power, towards introducing into the World, the Works of thoſe *Anonymous* Perſons who are ſo fond of being Authors.

In the firſt place, out of his exceeding Zeal to the Cauſe, *One* is allarm'd at the Induſtry of the *Whigs*, in aiming to ſtrengthen their *Routed Party*, by a Reinforcement from the Circumcis'd, as not contented with *Arrians*, *Socinians*, *Free-Thinkers*, all ſorts of *Chriſtian Sectaries*; beſides a conſiderable number of *Apoſtates*, or if you pleaſe *Deſerters*, from our own Body; and therefore recommends to me, that ſome Care may be taken to put a ſtop to theſe Gallimaufry Meetings, theſe prohibited Conjunctions, of *Jews* and *Chriſtians*, ſince in order to bring thoſe Infidels within the wide Circle of *Whiggiſh* Community, neither Blandiſhments nor Promiſes are omitted, the very Women proving Acceſſaries: As for Example, a certain *Great Lady* with ſome beauteous Auxilliaries, did not diſdain to grace Sir *S—n M--d--a*'s magnificent Ball and Collation; nor was the young Dutcheſs, (tho' a Toaſt of the firſt Rate) in the leaſt diſguſted, at giving her Hand to dance in Partnerſhip with a frowzy *Jew*.

Another Perſon ſends me a Letter, complaining of the ſmall Reputation of the Q——n's Phy——ns: This careful Perſon ſeems to belong to the Church by his Expreſſion, where he blames the late M——ry for imitating *Jeroboam*, who ordain'd Prieſts out of the loweſt of the People; and confiding that *Sacred* Life, the *Breath of our Noſtrils*, to the Charge and Care of ſuch Men, to whoſe ſlender Abilities they would be very far from truſting their own.

The Third comes from a Sufferer under the late *Junto*, one, who remaining fully ſatisfy'd of his own Merit, repines that others have not the like valuable Eſtimation, and are not expeditious enough in rewarding the ſaid Merit: He therefore recommends to me a Subject, neceſſary to be read by all who have Pretenſions, or live in a Court, called, *The Nature of Delay, or the Virtues and Advantages of Procraſtination.*

A Fourth Perſon is ſenſibly piqued at the *Medley*'s popular Reflection, *That the Q——n's moſt gracious Speech ſhould be printed in* Abel's *Poſt-Boy, with this very juſt Concluſion, But we have lived to ſee the Day, wherein every thing Great and Illuſtrious among Men is treated with an unbecoming Familiarity: All Orders of Men muſt expect to be huddled into the vile Multitude, and uſed as if they had not Senſe of Glory or Infamy.* My Correſpondent enquires, what Devil owes this *Writer* and his *Party* a Shame, to make *Him* talk of a *Day?* That *ſcandalous Day!* when inſignificant *Pages* and forward *Attornies Clerks* were hoiſted above the Knowledge of themſelves, or their remembrance of others; not only perverting to their ſeveral Uſes the Treaſure of the Nation, but preſuming to give Laws even to their Sovereign! *That* was, indeed, a *Day which we have all lived to ſee, when all things Great and Illuſtrious among Men*, were, by Arrogant Upſtarts, treated not only *with an unbecoming Familiarity*, but with Treachery and Pride; when it might be truly ſaid, that under ſuch petty and yet arbitrary Diſpenſation, *All Orders of Men were huddled into the vile Multitude, and uſed as if they had not Senſe of Glory or Infamy.*

The Fifth Letter recounts a ſcandalous Paſſage that happen'd at the Auction of the late Mr. *Bernard*'s Library, and prays me to give all befitting Diſcouragement to ſuch Enormities: It ſeems ſome Gentlemen were talking of a ſcarce Book which treated of Spirits and Apparitions; one of them ask'd Mr. *Td—d*, what he thought of *Ghoſts?* Whither he had any Belief of ſuch Things? He readily anſwer'd, He was ſo far from believing *Ghoſts*, that he did not believe what Men call the *Holy Ghoſt*.

The next, (whom I ſhall do the Favour to ſhow at length, becauſe he calls himſelf a *Whig*, and may poſſibly charge me with unfair Quotation, if I ſink any part of what he hath wrote) ſends me an Invitation to come over to his Side; but leaſt this may be thought *Gaſconade*, I had beſt refer to the Original Letter.

SIR,

'YOU have ſtood the ſhock of the ſhallow Writers, 'aided by the beſt *Finiſhers* of our Party, with ſo 'much Reputation, and ſo much to their Confuſion, 'that I who have a Value for your Perſon and Abilities '(but an Averſion to your Cauſe) adviſe you to renounce 'the *Tories*, and come over to *Us*. Their Buſineſs is 'done, they have no more occaſion for your Pen; you 'muſt therefore expect to be neglected and forgotten, 'as your Fellow-Labourers have been. Whom have 'they ever rewarded? They go quite contrary to our 'Maxim; none, tho' ever ſo undeſerving, have ſuffer'd 'Impriſonment and Hardſhips for us, but we look on 'it as our common Intereſt to protect and uphold them, 'becauſe we have but *One*, the *Tories* as *Many* Intereſts 'as there are Perſons. Beſides, in writing for the 'ſtrongeſt Side, you have Commiſeration againſt you: 'Nor need your Apoſtacy fear finding its account, for 'the Reaſons before-mention'd, and one more very 'conſiderable, which is, that falſe Witneſſes are always 'well paid. The only Objection can be made againſt 'this Propoſal, is, you may think, perhaps, you have 'ſo far incenſed us by your many Diſcoveries of our *Arcana*, that you cannot expect to be receiv'd with any 'degree of Warmth or Confidence. If this be your 'Opinion, you are a great Stranger to our Principles; 'we never refuſe to accept an Enemy with open Arms, 'when we can thereby ſtrengthen our own, or weaken 'our Adverſaries Party: We are ſo far true Politicians, 'that both our Love and Hatred always give way to our 'Intereſt: But beſides, all muſt know our old blind Side, 'which was never Proof againſt Flattery, how fulſome 'or unjuſt ſoever. How many Authors, with no other 'Merit, flouriſh'd under the late Miniſtry? I would 'therefore adviſe you to write a Treatiſe, which will be 'very faſhionable and uſeful, call'd *The Art of ſhifting 'Sides*, and Dedicate it in theſe, or the like Terms:

To all Honeſt WHIG *Gentlemen, and vertuous* WHIG-*Ladies, in and about the Cities and Liberties of* London *and* Weſtminſter.

Gentlemen *and* Ladies,

A Man who ventures to publiſh bold Truths in theſe Days of Toriſm and Arbitrary Government, unleſs he hath a powerful Intereſt to ſupport him, muſt expect to be ſcurvily treated by the Perſecuting part of the World: Without very good Seconds, he may ſhew abundance of Zeal, but little Diſcretion; like thoſe Knights of old, who uſed to plunge alone into the midſt of armed Foes. The only difference between the Courage of the Hero, and that of the Au-

Author, seem to ly in the Succeſs; one meets with Tyburn, Newgate, *or at beſt a Meſſenger; whilſt the other gallantly reſcues his Miſtreſs, or carries off the Prize. For this Reaſon I preſume to apply to you for Protection, and hope to make my future Services attone for my paſt Offences. You are too Conſiderable, both in Number and Power, to fear a Defeat, and too zealous of the Truth, to ſuffer its Champion, to be born down and trampled upon by Enemies.*

Gentlemen, *Your very Adverſaries can't deny but you have more Mony than they, and conſequently muſt give you up the Superiority of Wit; and tho' they have diſputed the point of Honeſty, it appears, the Ballance now lies entirely on your Side; witneſs the many unanſwerable Steps you have taken for the Good of the Nation, the Wonders of your late Adminiſtration, your Reſpect and Honour for the true Intereſt of your Q——n and Country, your Concern for the Publick Credit, and your Readineſs to advance Money upon great Emergencies, where the Safety of the State ſo eminently required it.*

Ladies, *Were your Plea to Vertue and Beauty leſs evident, you might ſtand more in need of a Champion; but I never heard any that durſt preſume to ſay, you have more Vertue than Beauty, or leſs Humility than Prudence; you ſhine in your Zeal for the Cauſe, and your Condeſcenſion is ſo bright a part of your Character, that there are few Men, how deſpicable ſoever, but what have found the happy Effects of it.*

SIR,

'By my Intimacy and Station among them, I have ſo 'exact an Knowledge of what will take, that I have 'ſent you this rough Draught, which I will undertake 'to be the Univerſal Senſe of our Party; only leaving 'you to model it, after ſuch a manner as you think beſt. 'I hope you will not defer your Converſion, but con'clude this a Mark of my Kindneſs for you. Pray make 'your Advantage of this Advice, and you will very 'much rejoice,

SIR,

Your Affectionate Friend

and Humble Servant,

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